

Non-implementation of Annapurna Scheme by some States

1164. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some States have not implemented Annapurna Scheme so far;
- (b) if so, the names of such States and the reasons therefor;
- (c) what steps are being taken to get the scheme implemented in these States;
- (d) whether Tripura Government had requested the Centre to enhance the monthly quota under the scheme; and
- (e) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (e) The Annapurna Scheme, which aims at providing food Security to destitutes above 65 years of age (identified by the State/UTs), is yet to be implemented in five States, namely, Haryana, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab which have indicated difficulties in identifying beneficiaries, as per the criteria of the Scheme. The Government of Tripura had suggested an increase in entitlement of rice (from 10 Kgs to 15 Kgs per month), which is not in accordance with the Guidelines of the Scheme and could not be acceded to.

Citizens eligible under Annapurna Scheme

1165. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI J. CHITTARANJAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) how many States have identified elderly citizens eligible for distribution of 10 Kg. grains per month at free of cost, under the "Annapurna Scheme" and the State-wise number identified so far; and